

Integrating Resources Cataloging Workshop
September 29-30, 2004
Montreal, Quebec
Pre-conference to OLAC 2004

Organizer's Report

The workshop was co-sponsored by the Montreal Chapter of the Canadian Library Association and the Online Audiovisual Catalogers (OLAC), and was partially supported by a Workshop Incentive Grant from the Canadian Association for College and University Libraries (CACUL), a division of CLA. It was held in the Lemieux Room of the Crowne Plaza Montreal Centre Hotel on Sherbrooke Street, where the OLAC conference was to be held October 1-3, 2004.

The 2002 OLAC conference had organized a 1-day SCCTP workshop (Electronic Serials Cataloging) as a pre-conference, leading to interest in having an optional pre-conference again. However, 2004 was the first time OLAC was preceded by a 2-day pre-conference workshop. The CLA Montreal Chapter had previously hosted 3 workshops in the SCCTP series, leading to great interest in the latest offering, Integrating Resources. An informal poll on the OLAC list showed somewhat more interest in Integrating Resources than in a repeat of Electronic Serials.

Just as OLAC 2004 drew participants from all over Canada, the United States and 5 other countries, the pre-conference also had participants from near and far. Two participants came from Singapore, and one each from Thailand, Hong Kong and South Africa. Six came from the United States, and the remaining 16 from Canada. Of these 4 were from Ottawa and 8 from Montreal. All but 4 of the 27 participants in the workshop also registered for the full OLAC conference, these were from either Montreal or Ottawa. Most (17) work in a university or college library, but there were also 3 from national libraries, 3 from other government libraries, 1 from a museum, 1 from a public library and 1 instructor in library technologies.

Trainers for the workshop were Carol M. Baker from the University of Calgary and Trina Grover from Ryerson University in Toronto, both extremely experienced SCCTP trainers. Local arrangements were handled by the OLAC 2004 organizing committee, including a/v arrangements and catering resulting in consistency with the main conference. The pre-conference did have the advantage of being a smaller group so catered breaks were included. Convenors for the pre-conference were Pat Riva and Laura May. Particular thanks to Laura who was onsite during the entire workshop handling registration and logistical issues.

The workshop was advertised only in conjunction with the OLAC conference itself. It proved to be in demand, reaching capacity prior to the closing of the registration period. Organizers maintained a waiting list, but no cancellations were received. It is likely that there is sufficient demand locally for it to be held again in Montreal.

Submitted by
Pat Riva
on behalf of the OLAC 2004 Organizing Committee

Summary of Evaluations

25 completed evaluation forms were received from 27 attendees.

The evaluation form consisted of 7 questions with a response scale, and 4 open-ended questions. Some comments of a more general nature were fit into one of the questions.

Questions:

1. Generally, the presenters were well organized and informative.
2. The workshop content was relevant to my work.
3. I gained useful information in the sessions.
4. The exercises fit the material presented.
5. I had ample opportunity to raise questions during the sessions.
6. I had ample opportunity to raise questions during the exercises review.
7. The overall workshop met my personal expectations.

	3 - Neutral		4 - Agree		5 - Strongly agree	
Q1:	1	4%	4	16%	20	80%
Q2:	0	0%	6	24%	19	76%
Q3:	0	0%	2	8%	23	92%
Q4:	0	0%	3	12%	22	88%
Q5:	0	0%	4	16%	21	84%
Q6:	0	0%	4	16%	21	84%
Q7:	0	0%	3	12%	22	88%

These satisfaction ratings are extremely high.

One person added the note “Really Gr8!” next to question 1 (presenters).

One person added the note “will be eventually” next to question 4 (relevant to work).

One person added the note “exceeded!” next to question 7 (overall expectations).

Question 8. Please tell us what you found to be most helpful in the workshop.

Summary: The majority of the comments focused on some aspect of the workshop materials, particularly the exercises and examples (12), and having the manual (5). Having knowledgeable trainers to bring the material to life (7 comments) was important to people, corroborating the high ratings in question 1. Three specifically appreciated being able to interact and discuss with other participants. This brings out that there is more to the learning experience of a 2-day workshop than just being given the material for self-study.

5 did not add any comments.

- the trainers’ knowledge
- the experience of the trainers, their knowledge in this subject area is impressive
- speakers were very interested [in the topic] which made the workshop interesting
- presenters were extremely clear and confident in their grasp of the material
- trainers presented clearly and elaborated on their local situations. Very well done!
- access to instructors to discuss specific situations and problems
- knowing how other libraries catalog integrating resources
- presentation of cataloguing options and alternatives
- reassurance that we’re “all in the same boat” re: newness of standards, different interpretations, etc.
- everything was great, but going over the exercises is very beneficial
- the exercises and case studies are excellent

- the examples and case studies
- real-life examples and case studies
- examples and questions/answers
- examples: discussions/explanations/debates
- the use of suitable examples
- many examples to illustrate some issues
- the presentation showed a lot of examples to clarify different concepts of IR
- the explanations of which answers were most appropriate
- the general overview and specific examples
- slides and workbook
- workbook and exercises were excellent
- the updates
- trainee manual -- great information with examples
- clear presentation style and manual combination
- manual to take home
- very good introduction to IR for a cataloguer who has rarely touched this material
- the pace and timing was just right
- that I heard about it
- that it was held in Montreal (near Ottawa)
- it was a great course, well-presented

Question 9. Were any topics not covered that you expected to be presented?

Summary: The course material seems to fit the expectations raised by the workshop title very well.

13 made no specific suggestions.

- no (9 responses)
- ch.9 and 12 were adequately covered
- single record approach to deal with printed materials with online access
- (not an exact response) I found the constant references to MARC21 tags somewhat overwhelming as I don't work in MARC21 but in SAMARC [South African MARC]. I did follow most however, so this is a very personal/subjective comment.

Question 10. How could we improve the content or other aspects of this workshop?

Summary: Comments touched on both the content and materials of the course as well as organizational matters. Just a few comments relate to specific improvements in the materials, continuous paging (1), solutions (1). The main issue (6 comments) seems to be balancing the time to cover the content to everyone's satisfaction. The whole concept of IR is still new enough that time needs to be spent on the basics. The idea of pre-workshop readings might be worth pursuing. The main organization issue was lack of Internet access (3 comments). As this workshop was a pre-conference to OLAC it was held in a hotel where the Internet fees were prohibitive. The overall OLAC conference organizers decided against Internet access to keep registration fees affordable.

14 made no specific suggestions.

- very good as it was!
- more advertising
- microphones?
- need internet access
- should provide internet access so trainer can show the example since most examples are from online.

- perhaps some online demo's during discussions -- connections permitting of course!! -- would add quite a bit of extra time I guess.
 - one small point: continuous pagination in the manual would be helpful
 - for part of exercises, it may be better to provide suggested answers in printout. This is because we may get lost after discussing those questions. It would be very helpful if we have the suggested answers.
 - require participants to read the LCRI 1.0 first (i.e. prior to coming) plus, require participants to look over "guidelines" p.1-3, included in the Trainee Manual, Jan 2003, Session 5 EIR Case Studies.
- The preconference was excellent! If attendees are cataloguers (or past cataloguers), then session could require some prior readings since this gives more foundations to start. But, this suggestion is meant only to relieve trainers of having to take lots of questions early on. We always seem to run out of time somewhere, and this is a very ambitious workshop in terms of what is covered!
- Almost overwhelming with the amount of topics covered and I don't know how this could be improved.
 - more "reined in" question periods needed
 - Time (or stop hair-splitting discussions). Allow more time for discussion during the sessions, not at the end.
 - More information on: database vs. web site.

Question 11. What topics would you like to see covered in future workshops?

Summary: The preponderance of suggestions relating to cataloguing of non-print, non-traditional formats reflects the fact that this workshop was held as a pre-conference to OLAC and was primarily attended by people also attending the OLAC conference. The request for more frequent workshops seems directed to local library associations.

16 made no specific suggestions.

- other non-print formats: videorecordings, sound recordings, maps
- videos, DVD's etc.
- AV materials, all formats, particularly the enhanced CDs, talking books in CD format, etc.
- catalog digitized collections/materials
- cataloguing of microforms
- cataloguing of legal documentation
- MARC Holdings
- FRBR
- would just enjoy seeing workshops more frequently offered

General comment:

Everything has been so well-organized and the website is wonderful.